

1 What is claimed is:

2 1. An assembly structured to securely retain a louver of a
3 vertical blind assembly in an operative orientation, said
4 assembly comprising:

5 a) a support plate disposed in depending relation to a
6 carrier assembly of the vertical blind assembly,

7 b) said support plate located at an upper end of the louver
8 in supporting relation thereto, and

9 c) a retaining clip disposed adjacent said support plate in
10 retaining engagement with a connecting portion of the
11 carrier assembly.

12 2. An assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein said retaining clip
13 is removably disposed relative to said support plate and the
14 connecting portion.

15 3. An assembly as recited in claim 2 wherein said retaining clip
16 is structured and configured to at least partially surround
17 the connecting portion.

18 4. An assembly as recited in claim 3 wherein said retaining clip
19 is disposed in sandwiching engagement with the connecting
20 portion on opposite sides of said support plate.

21 5. An assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein said retaining clip
22 is disposed in sandwiching engagement with the connecting
23 portion on opposite sides of said support plate.

24 6. An Assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein said retaining clip
25 comprises a first clip portion and a second clip portion

1 connected together into clamping engagement with the
2 connecting portion.

3 7. An assembly as recited in claim 6 wherein said retaining clip
4 comprises at least one connector disposed in interconnecting
5 relation to both said first and second connecting portions.

6 8. An assembly as recited in claim 6 wherein said retaining clip
7 is disposed in sandwiching engagement with the connecting
8 portion on opposite sides of said support plate.

9 9. An assembly as recited in claim 6 wherein said retaining clip
10 comprises an open interior having a substantially closed
11 periphery defined by both said first and second clip portions.

12 10. An assembly as recited in claim 9 wherein said retaining clip
13 further comprises an interior surface disposed within said
14 open interior and structured to assume a clamping engagement
15 with the connecting portion.

16 11. An assembly as recited in claim 10 wherein said interior
17 surface comprises at least two surface segments each formed on
18 a different one of said first and second clip portions and
19 disposed in engaging relation with substantially opposing
20 parts of the connecting portion.

21 12. An assembly as recited in claim 11 wherein said retaining clip
22 is dimensioned and configured to retain the connecting portion
23 within said open interior in sandwiched relation between said
24 two surface segments and said first and second clip portions.

25 13. An assembly as recited in claim 6 wherein said first and

1 second clip portions are removably connected to one another
2 and disposed on opposite sides of said support plate and in
3 sandwiching relation to the connecting portion.

4 14. An assembly as recited in claim 13 wherein said retaining clip
5 comprises an open interior and an interior surface disposed
6 therein; at least a portion of said interior surface
7 comprising a substantially recessed configuration disposed in
8 retaining engagement with a corresponding part of the
9 connecting portion.

10 15. An assembly as recited in claim 14 wherein said interior
11 surface comprises a plurality of surface segments disposed in
12 spaced relation to one another, at least one of said surface
13 segments including at least a portion of said recessed
14 configuration disposed and dimensioned to receive the
15 corresponding part of the connecting portion therein.

16 16. An assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein said support plate
17 includes a stabilizing structure mounted adjacent the
18 connecting portion and cooperatively disposed to restrict
19 relative lateral displacement of said support plate and the
20 connecting portion.

21 17. An assembly as recited in claim 16 wherein said stabilizing
22 structure comprises at least one stop member disposed in
23 engagement with a part of the connecting portion supportingly
24 engaging said support plate.

25 18. An assembly as recited in claim 16 wherein said support plate

1 comprises a mounting aperture disposed and dimensioned to
2 receive the connecting portion there through; said stabilizing
3 structure comprising at least two stop members each disposed
4 adjacent a periphery of said mounting aperture in movement
5 restricting relation to the connecting portion.

6 19. An assembly structured to securely retain a louver of a
7 vertical blind assembly in an operative orientation, said
8 assembly comprising:

9 a) a support plate secured adjacent an upper end of the
10 louver and attached in supported relation to a connecting
11 portion of a carrier assembly of the vertical blind
12 assembly,

13 b) said support plate including a stabilizing structure
14 mounted adjacent the connecting portion and cooperatively
15 disposed to restrict relative lateral displacement of
16 said support plate and the connecting portion,

17 c) a retaining clip including an open interior and an
18 interior surface, said interior surface at least
19 partially disposed in clamping engagement with the
20 connecting portion, and

21 d) at least a portion of said interior surface having a
22 recessed configuration disposed in retaining relation to
23 the connecting portion.

24 20. An assembly as recited in claim 19 wherein said interior
25 surface comprises at least two substantially opposed surface

1 segments, at least one of said surface segments comprising a
2 portion of said recessed configuration disposed and
3 dimensioned to receive a corresponding part of the connecting
4 portion therein.

5 21. An assembly as recited in claim 20 wherein said recessed
6 configuration is formed on each of said surface segments in
7 receiving engagement with substantially opposite parts of the
8 connecting portion.

9 22. An assembly as recited in claim 21 wherein at least one of
10 said surface segments comprises a beveled area formed thereon
11 and disposed in communication with said recessed
12 configuration.

13 23. An assembly as recited in claim 21 wherein said retaining clip
14 comprises at least two clip portions connected together into
15 clamping engagement with the connecting portion.

16 24. An assembly as recited in claim 23 wherein each of said
17 surface segments is formed on a different one of said clip
18 portions in substantially opposed relation to one another.

19 25. An assembly as recited in claim 23 wherein said clip portions
20 are removably connected to one another.

21 26. An assembly as recited in claim 19 wherein said stabilizing
22 structure comprises at least one stop member disposed in
23 movement restricting relation to a part of the connecting
24 portion supportingly engaging said support plate.

25 27. An assembly as recited in claim 19 wherein said support plate

1 comprises a mounting aperture disposed and dimensioned to
2 receive the connecting portion there through, said stabilizing
3 structure comprising at least two stop member each disposed
4 adjacent a periphery of said mounting aperture in movement
5 restricting relation to the connecting portion.

6 28. An assembly structured to securely retain a louver of a
7 vertical blind assembly in an operative orientation, said
8 assembly comprising:

9 a) a support plate secured adjacent an upper end of
10 the louver in supported relation by a connecting
11 portion of the vertical blind assembly,

12 b) said support plate including a stabilizing
13 structure mounted adjacent the connecting portion
14 and cooperatively disposed to restrict relative
15 lateral displacement of said support plate and the
16 connecting portion,

17 c) a retaining clip including a plurality of clip
18 portions removably connected together into a
19 closed, operative position,

20 d) said retaining clip including an open interior
21 having a substantially closed periphery
22 collectively defined by said plurality of clip
23 portions when in said operative position, and

24 e) an interior surface formed along said open interior
25 and being disposed in clamping engagement with the

1 connecting portion.